

World History to 1600

Yarmouth High School

Ms. Sanders

About the course World History to 1600 offers an introduction to the significant people, events, and ideas that shaped world events from the beginnings of civilization through the European Renaissance.



The **units of study** will include the following:

1. Current Events/September 11th
2. Egypt, the Ancient Middle East
3. Ancient Greece
4. Ancient China and India
5. The Age of Rome
6. The Middle Ages
7. Civilizations in Americas, Africa, Asia
8. The Renaissance

Class web page: Daily assignments, project rubrics, and other course resources are available online through the class page at <http://worldhistory-yhs.wikispaces.com/home>. Please bookmark this site and always check it first whenever you have questions about an assignment.

Field trips: You will participate in two history-related field trips during the year. During the World Religions unit all students visit a variety of places of worship in the Portland area. In May all students visit the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston as the culmination of our historical units.

Grading and Assignments

Homework: Homework will usually consist of readings to introduce concepts and/or short assignments in which you apply those concepts. Your ability to participate productively in class and to perform well on quizzes and tests is directly related to completing your homework. Please feel free to ask questions about your homework if you do not understand something. Most homework will be collected and graded for quality.

Quizzes and Tests: I will give quizzes from time to time to check that you are staying on top of the course and are able to use the concepts and skills we have learned. They will be announced ahead of time. Typically there will be a test at the end of each unit. I will announce when tests will be and we will review in class. For major tests, I will provide you with a study guide ahead of time that lists the important topics and concepts to be covered on the test.

Test Corrections: Test corrections may be done for unit tests, but are not required. In general you can receive up to half the points lost on an exam through test corrections. Specific details on the grading and requirements for these, as well as sample corrections, are posted on the course website.

Projects and Presentations: We will work on individual or small group projects during certain units. These will vary in format, and might include map work, simulations, presentations, and a variety of other activities. Detailed guidelines and rubrics will be handed out for major projects.

Current Events: Each student will give a current events presentation at least once throughout the year. There will be periodic current events quizzes.

Work Habits: Work habits account for an important part of your quarter grade and will include the following categories: on-time work, class participation, on-task work, and homework checks.

A. On-Time Work Students who do not hand work in on time will receive a detention 1st semester.

B. Class Participation Periodically you will be evaluated based on the participation rubric below.

	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often: answers questions asks relevant questions actively contributes to class discussions Always works cooperatively in groups and helps keep members on task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the time: answers questions asks relevant questions actively contributes to class discussions Always works cooperatively in groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes: answers questions asks relevant questions contributes to class discussions Works in groups but sometimes gets group off task or lets others do the work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely: answers questions asks relevant questions contributes to class discussions Regularly impedes group progress by getting off task and not completing work do the work
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always follows directions and asks helpful clarifying questions if needed Uses feedback constructively and demonstrates improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always follows directions Uses feedback constructively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes follows directions Sometimes responds negatively to feedback or does not use it to improve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequently fails to follow directions Often responds negatively to feedback or does not use it to improve

C. On-Task Work Periodically when we have time in class to work independently or in a small groups you will be evaluated based on the rubric below.

Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> follows directions gets right to work politely asks questions or requests help if needed stays on task throughout time without needing any teacher intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> follows directions gets right to work politely asks questions or requests help if needed stays on task most of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> needs prompting to get to work does not ask questions/seek help right away if needed is on task some of the time, but requires teacher interventions to get focused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not seek help when needed is often off-task and requires frequent teacher interventions

D. Homework Checks

Many homework assignments in this class will be collected and graded for quality. Occasionally, however, I will just do a quick check for completion. In those cases you will get a small work habits grade for the assignment. If you do not have the work done you will receive a zero. When you complete the assignment and show it to me, the zero will be removed in Powerschool but will still affect your on-time grade.

Academic Honesty

I will be clear about when collaboration with other students is acceptable and what form that collaboration should take. As a general rule, however, I expect that your work in this course, from homework to major assessments like tests and projects, will reflect your own efforts. On a typical homework assignment, for example, it is acceptable to discuss the questions and your thoughts with classmates, **but your written responses should be in your own words.** If homework has been shared among students and copied, everyone involved will receive a zero for the assignment. The same is true for most other forms of cheating. I will inform your parents and Mr. Ottow if such issues arise.

Your Guide to this Course

Everyone can do well in this course! My job is to make this course interesting and engaging – your job is to make an effort and participate actively. Here are a few ideas to help you do your best work in this class.

- Arrive on time with all necessary class materials - have a binder just for this class organized by unit.
- Come to class with a positive attitude.
- Pay attention– don't distract others or become distracted yourself.
- Ask questions! Ask about things during class that are confusing and/or arrange to meet with me outside of class time to talk about trouble areas or review material.
- Study for unit tests. This means different things for different people both in terms of how much time you need to study and what study strategies to use. If you struggle with this, please meet with me to discuss strategies.
- I want everyone to feel free to ask questions, raise points and in general to participate in class discussions. I encourage different views on issues, and expect we will have respectful and mature discussions.